

From: [Downham, Todd](#)
To: [McElhane, Skylar](#)
Cc: [Amy.Brittain@deq.ok.gov](#); [Coltrain, Katrina](#)
Subject: RE: soil testing - bristow
Date: Thursday, November 12, 2015 10:17:55 AM
Attachments: [WilcoxSuperfundHandout_Oct2015.pdf](#)

EPA and DEQ are in the process of investigating the Site during the Remedial Investigation (RI). The fuller extent of risks to exposure to contaminants will be determined during the Human Health Risk Assessment, which will be completed after the RI Phase. The RI Phase is expected to take approximately 2-3 years.

At this time EPA and DEQ believe that residents should not be concerned with any *immediate* health concerns from exposure to the soil that was sampled in the yard areas that were sampled.

It is possible that *long term* health risks are present, however that will be determined during the Human Health Risk Assessment.

Any Superfund Site that has *not* gone through a complete Remedial Investigation, Risk Assessments, and Remedial Action (RA)/clean up, such as the Wilcox Site, will have certain uncertainties and risks associated with it.

EPA and DEQ have advised residents to take precautions to limit their exposure to contaminants that may be present on the site (See page 3 of the attached Wilcox Handout).

Residents should be concerned because they are living on a Superfund Site that was a former oil refinery. Potential risks are inherent on properties with such historical industrial uses.

Fortunately, no immediate risks from soil exposure in yard areas have been identified at this time. As mentioned earlier, potential long term risks may be present.

Arsenic is naturally occurring in soils in Oklahoma.

Soil samples collected from residential yard areas showed arsenic levels that are within the normal range for Oklahoma.

Highlighted levels in the soil testing results indicate that it was above the screening level, which does not necessarily indicate a problem that would require immediate action (soil removal).

Thank you for your questions regarding the Wilcox Site. The nature of this type of investigation and clean up can be confusing due to its complexity and length.

EPA and DEQ look forward to knowing more about the Site and sharing information with the public as we move forward towards a clean up there.

Thank you,

Todd Downham
 Environmental Programs Specialist
 Department of Environmental Quality

Site Remediation Section
Land Protection Division
(405) 702-5136
todd.downham@deq.ok.gov

From: McElhaney, Skylar
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 8:51 AM
To: Downham, Todd
Cc: Brittain, Amy
Subject: Fwd: soil testing - bristow

Yes, see below. Also, see her follow-ups.

Skylar McElhaney
Department of Environmental Quality
(405) 702-7167 Office
(405) 570-1546 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Clark, Janna (CMG-TulsaTV)" <jclark@fox23.com>
Date: November 11, 2015 at 12:26:12 PM CST
To: "McElhaney, Skylar" <Skylar.McElhaney@deq.ok.gov>
Subject: Re: soil testing - bristow

Should people living on the site be concerned?

(b) (6) showed me her soil sample results. Every single one was high for arsenic. Should she be concerned?

Thanks.

Janna

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 10, 2015, at 8:34 PM, McElhaney, Skylar
<Skylar.McElhaney@deq.ok.gov> wrote:

Hi Janna,

We have been conducting environmental sampling to understand where, what types, and the risks that may be present on the site.

Based on the soil testing that EPA performed on yards, it was determined that an immediate action is not required at this time. As part of the Remedial Investigation phase of the Superfund process, human health and environmental risk assessments will be performed

to determine what risks are present. As a result of the Risk Assessments, appropriate clean up criteria will be determined for the site.

It is possible that soil may be removed from yard areas in the future, depending on the results of the Risk Assessments.

EPA and DEQ met with property owners individually to answer questions regarding the tests performed on their properties.

Benzo(a)pyrene is a polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH). I will send you fact sheets for arsenic and PAHs that are from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Tomorrow is a state holiday, so we will be out of the office. I will check messages periodically.

Have a great evening.

Skylar McElhaney
Department of Environmental Quality
(405) 702-7167 Office
(405) 570-1546 Cell

On Nov 10, 2015, at 2:29 PM, "Clark, Janna (CMG-TulsaTV)"
<jclark@fox23.com<<mailto:jclark@fox23.com>>> wrote:

I have spoken to (b) (6) in Bristow about soil testing done on her land.

Her results show "Arsenic" is highlighted on every sample, as well as "Benzo-pyrene" is highlighted in one sample.

She was also given some info about Arsenic and PAHs. What are PAH's? Is Arsenic a PAH? Is Benzo-pyrene a PAH? What is Benzo-pyrene?

Is the DEQ concerned about these results? How do her test results compare to other samples taken on the superfund site?

What's DEQ's next move? What's next for her? Should she move?

Any way you can get this info to me by tomorrow at noon?

Thank you.

Janna

Janna Clark

FOX23 News

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